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The Winning of the War Is an Essential Investment

—President Wilson

The Liberty Loan Is the National Register of the Dynamo's Power

By Ralph Block

THE army and the navy are the working ends of a great machine. They have motion and power of aggression because a dynamo of national dimensions works ceaselessly several thousand miles away to create power for them. Power is food and clothing, the assurance of a smooth organization, but finally it is morale—the combination of everything good that guarantees backing to an army. The Liberty Loan is the national register of the dynamo's power. When the loan climbs dizzily, overtopping the mark set at Washington, it means that the power of the people behind their army is more than enough; that regardless of the circumstances of fighting there is still more courage, more faith, more willingness left at home to give wealth and spiritual devotion.

The people of Great Britain, half as many of them as the people of the United States, have already loaned their government fourteen billion dollars, which is still some four billion better than we have done. France has raised seven billions from war bonds, and Russia did almost as well before the established government fell. Figures on the German debt are misleading, because of the tricky system of finance developed to hide national bankruptcy; but at least it is known that the German public debt almost equals that of Great Britain. The German figure is twenty-seven billions, which is seventeen billions larger than our own. France marvelously has a debt that is six billions below that of Germany. Austria's public debt is almost thirteen billions. It is interesting to note that twenty-six of the twenty-seven billions of the German debt is the outgrowth of the present war.

The War Costs Us Two Million an Hour

Figures which have been issued by the Liberty Loan Committee on the cost of the war give significant point to the campaign for the fourth loan, which has just been launched. The government is now spending at the rate of eighteen billion dollars a year, if the expenditure for July, something over one and one half billion dollars, is to be taken as a normal month's outgo. In proportion, at this rate, the war is costing the people of the United States fifty million dollars a day, or two million dollars an hour. The need for saving, for sacrifice, in order that the government's treasury may be swelled with wealth grows apparent on a survey of these figures; for only by saving and self-denial and a full devotion now to the national cause can the war be brought speedily and directly to its proper close. A dollar this year will be worth two dollars next year. The longer the conflict goes on the greater its drain. The moral is to lend freely now.

We are a business minded people. We like to know how our money is being spent. It is the essence of successful democracy that every one in the nation should have an interest in the national processes. To meet this interest the Liberty Loan Committee has prepared an amazingly complete list of costs that arise out of going to war. These figures are open to variation from time to time, but they represent a fairly exact estimate of the forms which expenditure

from Liberty bond money will take. For instance, it costs \$4.93 to change a civilian into a soldier. And according to Major Frederick Palmer, chief censor of the army in France, each soldier costs the government \$2,070 a year. Major Palmer has divided this amount into the following costs:

Sustenance	\$400
Personal equipment	280
Service equipment	680
Average pay	480
Housing	80
Transportation to France	120
Total	\$2,070

Pay in the army runs from \$30 for a private to \$11,000 for a general. The rate is the same in the navy, where the two limits in grade are the seaman and the admiral. In the army, of course, as in the navy, there are various allowances for special service, for marksmanship, length of service. A first class private, for instance, gets \$33 a month and special allowances.

When the soldier is in training on this side he has to have an outfit of summer clothing that comes to \$41.81. His living, equipment, blankets, mess kit, canteen, etc., come to \$34.57. But when he goes overseas he has to have another outfit of clothing, which comes practically to \$100.

When you consider that he wears out nine or ten pairs of shoes a year in active service and puts on a new pair of socks every few days to avoid blisters from darning, it isn't hard to see that the overseas clothing outfit will come to \$200 a year easily. Multiply that by the five million men who are going to be in France, and there's a billion dollars gone for clothes alone. The cost table for the soldier's overseas wear follows:

One overseas cap	\$1.00
One winter cap	1.25
One coat, woolen olive drab	9.75
One set identification tags, at 2c04
One set collar badges and insignia46
One leather jerkin (wind-proof vest)	6.75
Two pairs breeches (woollen olive drab)	12.64
One waist belt30
Two pairs spiral puttees (woollen)	5.90
Two pairs field shoes (hob-nailed)	15.00
Three undershirts, heavy woolen	6.50
Three pairs drawers, heavy woolen	6.50
Five pairs socks, heavy woolen	3.00
One overcoat	12.17
One pair woolen gloves80
One slicker (raincoat)	5.33
Two dannel shirts, at \$4.08	8.16

Total cost original outfit of overseas clothing

Then, there's the fighting equipment. The most important item in it is the modified Enfield rifle, 1917 U. S. model, which costs the government \$30. A gas mask costs \$12, and 220 rounds of rifle cartridges, \$11. The rest of the articles are a bayonet and scabbard, cartridge belt, first aid packet, intrenching tool (shovel or pick-mattock), carrier for it,

and a steel helmet, which costs only \$1.65, a good deal less than a felt hat costs now. The total comes to \$67.29.

The cavalryman adds to this equipment a revolver or automatic pistol, a sabre, saddle and bridle, blanket, curry comb, all of which costs \$100, and a horse that adds another \$200.

Group feeding does amazing things to the cost of living. It costs 43 cents a day to feed each man in the A. E. F., and the testimony is that it is food which dollars could not touch on Broadway. The annual total for each soldier is \$156.95. Every company has its own kitchen on wheels, provided for \$1,000, and equipped with kettles and pots for a sum ranging from \$300 to \$500.

Our Appropriation Equals the Entire Austrian Debt

But when you've finished with the individual soldier and the means that contribute to his living, the rest of the money spent on putting armies at work is spent largely on means toward killing the enemy. As evidence toward this, there is the fact that the United States government appropriated for the present war up to August 15, for ordnance, ordnance supplies and equipment, an amount that lacked only forty-nine millions of reaching the enormous total of thirteen billion dollars. In other terms, the American appropriation equals the entire Austrian public debt, at least in money figures. A part of this money has gone into preparation to build instruments of war. Seventy-five millions is going for

heavy and mobile artillery plants, twenty-five millions for gun carriage plants, another hundred millions for smokeless powder plants. The government has advanced almost sixty-five million dollars to help build sixteen ordnance plants.

The cost of guns themselves is enormous, due to the many stages of labor involved and the precision necessary to their manufacture. The famous .75-millimetre, the gun which, backed by French courage, has done a great deal toward keeping the Boche at bay, costs \$7,000 to manufacture in the United States. The 155-millimetre doubles that, and when the government reaches the great 16-inch cannon, one of the most powerful of our guns, it pays \$175,000 for it, without any mounting. And the mounting itself is by no means a small item. Every battery has a double equipment, in case the first is destroyed. Gun limbers cost \$1,000, horses \$200 each, harness sets \$645, and if a tractor is used the cost is pushed up \$4,000.

The appropriations in Congress this year for artillery ammunition reach the enormous total of two billions, six hundred and fifty millions. To understand this, it is necessary only to know that, according to official figures of the British government, our ally spent over sixty-three million dollars for the ammunition that was shot off in a seven-day bombardment in the attack on the Messines-Wytschaete Ridge in June, 1917. Rifle cartridges at almost five cents apiece put it in the reach of even the most casual to get rid of \$10 worth of ammunition

A Business Minded People, We Like to Know How Our Money Is Spent

As for machine guns, \$25 a minute is by no means extravagant. Grenades of all kinds, hand grenades and rifle grenades, cost from 45 to 48 cents apiece, and the Germans are entitled to what satisfaction they can get out of the information that sixty million dollars has already been put into this form of explosive.

When the accountant passes from rifle to cannon, he ceases to count ammunition costs in cents and passes to dollars. The shell for the 37-millimetre gun costs \$1. At the other end is the 16-inch gun, with a shell that costs \$1,000. A part of this, amount, \$335 of it, is for smokeless powder to send the exploding projectile on its way to the enemy. Then there are aerial torpedoes at \$600 apiece and bombs at \$45.

Big guns in modern warfare are a logical development from the lesser guns of former wars. But the airplane and the tank—especially the tank—are new phenomena in actual service, however much the Kipling and Wellsian fiction of the years before the war gave imaginative reality to them.

How many tanks and how many airplanes are meant to take their places in the ranks across the sea only a very few people in the United States are meant to

know. But it is taken for granted that they will be numbered by the thousands. The reports from both Allied and enemy sources indicate that tanks are already in extensive use. A light tank costs the United States more than a high-priced motor car—\$10,000. A heavy tank, a merciless, irresistible supermachine, costs \$25,000. Airplanes cost from \$7,000 to \$10,000 each. Observation balloons, which date back to the Civil War and the Franco-Prussian War of 1871, cost from \$18,000 to \$25,000 each. Dirigibles, or "blimps," as they are called in the navy, cost from \$25,000 up. The Zeppelins, even when their makers had somewhat standardized their manufacture, have been estimated to cost Germany a million dollars apiece. The radio is a necessary adjunct to these modern instruments. Recent dispatches speak of tanks being guided in their operations by the field radio. Each field set costs \$1,000, which is not a great deal, considering the quality of the instruments composing the set.

Maintaining the Army's Spirit and Morale

Once you raise your army, train it, equip it, carry it to its field of operation, you still have to provide for the maintenance of it at a high point of spirit and morale. The government has already spent two hundred and twenty-seven million dollars for depots, bases, camps and hospitals here and in France. A base hospital of 1,000 beds costs a flat half million dollars. Ambulances are \$1,600 each, motor trucks \$5,000, Ford trucks \$650 and motorcycles \$800.

Little as the public is able to learn about the navy, it still remains that the navy and its auxiliary service make our part in the war possible. The shipping programme as it is now planned, up to 1920, will call for the expenditure of five billions of dollars. A navy is no small item in a national budget. For instance, the Liberty Loan Committee gives these figures on the cost of warships:

Battleship (dreadnought)	\$23,075,000
Battle cruiser	24,900,000
Scout cruiser	7,220,000
Destroyer	1,590,000
Fuel ship	1,500,000
Seagoing submarine	1,430,000
Coast submarine	850,000
"Eagle" class submarine	350,000
110-foot submarine chaser	75,000

After you get a navy you have to keep it. It costs a ship, on the average, \$1,000 a day just to stay in port. And the costs are greater at sea, of course. The table of maintenance costs in service follows:

	Average cost, 12 months.
Battleships, first line	\$1,018,409.57
Battleships, second line	1,559,282.76
Armored cruisers	1,191,647.26
Cruisers, first class	1,416,886.31
Cruisers, second class	790,766.71
Cruisers, third class	431,922.60
Monitors	291,975.00
Destroyers	171,853.92
Submarines	68,725.11
Gunboats	132,333.50
Transports	326,790.00
Supply ship	232,539.32
Hospital ship	368,214.90
Fuel ship	167,981.16

It is this immense equipment that the nation is providing for in large part by its Liberty Loan to the government.

Every dollar in the loan may mean a step toward Berlin. And it isn't very far.

